

TERRITORY OF GUAM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AGAÑA, GUAM 96910 U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2001-30

RELATIVE TO DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY PROVIDING FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF GUAM BY CONTINUING THE EMPLOYMENT OF DISPATCHERS FOR THE 911 EMERGENCY SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, Public Law No. 25-55 mandated that the Public Utilities System (PUC) provide rates and funding for a 911 emergency system, and the PUC, after much time and expense on the project, established this system; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the budget and program established by the PUC, Seven (7) employees were trained in the procedures for handling emergency calls from the public, and were hired and working on the job as dispatchers; and

WHEREAS, the PUC authorized and approved a total of 16 positions to properly operate the 911 emergency system; and

WHEREAS, Public Law No. 26-35, the General Appropriation Act of 2001, reappropriated the money already allocated by the PUC in different proportions, eliminating positions and spreading the 911 emergency system funding, collected by a surcharge of \$1.00 on the Guam Telephone Authority's rates, throughout the Guam Fire Department for personnel and uses not consistent with the 911 emergency system; and

WHEREAS, Bill No. 205 was subsequently passed, again rearranging the funding originally set by the PUC in yet another manner, leaving out 4 of the 7 already hired and trained emergency dispatchers of the 911 emergency system; this bill was vetoed because of this discrepancy, which leaves the public without a functioning 911 emergency system for the health and safety of the public; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the veto, Bill No. 205 was overridden by the Legislature and is now Public Law No. 26-55; even so, in these times of terrorist attacks and the pre-existing need for an adequate health care delivery system which starts with a 911 emergency system to activate emergency health care, the 911 emergency system must go forward;

WHEREAS, the Organic Act of Guam requires the Governor to provide for the public health of Guam under §1421g of Title 48, U.S.C., and the 911 emergency system is an integral part of the health care system of Guam;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARL T.C. GUTIERREZ, I Maga'Lahen Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do order:

1. A state of emergency is declared for the 911 emergency system to continue to function, uninterrupted, notwithstanding the override of Bill No. 205. All previously hired and trained employees who were operating the 911 emergency system prior to the override of Bill No. 205,



which occurred on November 5, 2001, shall continue to operate the 911 emergency system.

- 2. Emergency procurement and emergency expenses. Pursuant to §5215 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated, authorizing emergency procurement upon executive order, this executive order shall authorize emergency procurement of personnel to operate the 911 emergency system as provided by the Public Utilities Commission.
- 3. Legislature is requested to provide emergency appropriations to assist. This executive order shall serve as an official request to the Legislature to provide appropriations for the continued proper operation of the 911 emergency system.
- 4. Further authorization for emergency procurement unnecessary. The authorization for the certification, approval, and expenditure of necessary funds pursuant to §5215 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated shall be this executive order and any identified funds already appropriated and any funds appropriated after the date of this executive order for the same purpose.
- 5. Purpose of emergency procurement and expenditure of funds. Emergency procurement may be used for procurement of any goods and services provided by the Guam Fire Department as the lead agency in the provision of goods and services to operate a proper functioning 911 emergency system; and continuing for Thirty (30) days after the date of this executive order as provided in §5215 of Title 5, Guam Code Annotated.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 6th day of November, 2001.

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ I Maga'Lahen Guåhan

Governor of Guam